

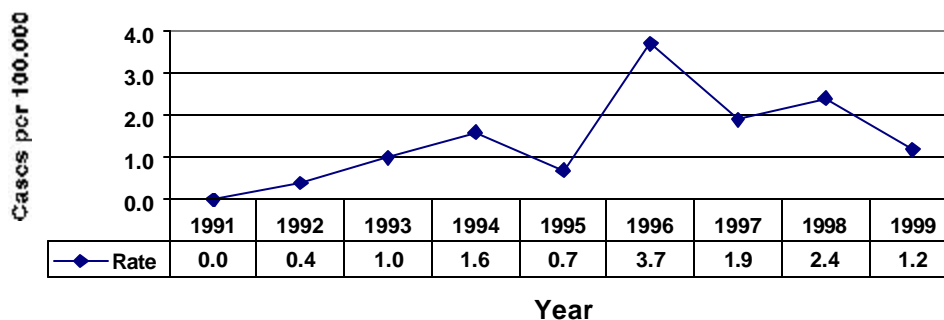
PERTUSSIS

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly contagious disease of the respiratory tract caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. The disease can progress to severe paroxysms of cough, often with a characteristic inspiratory whoop. Pertussis is primarily a very contagious childhood disease that can be particularly severe in infants less than one year of age. Transmission occurs by direct contact with aerosol droplets from the respiratory tract of infected persons. Immunization beginning at two months of age is recommended.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

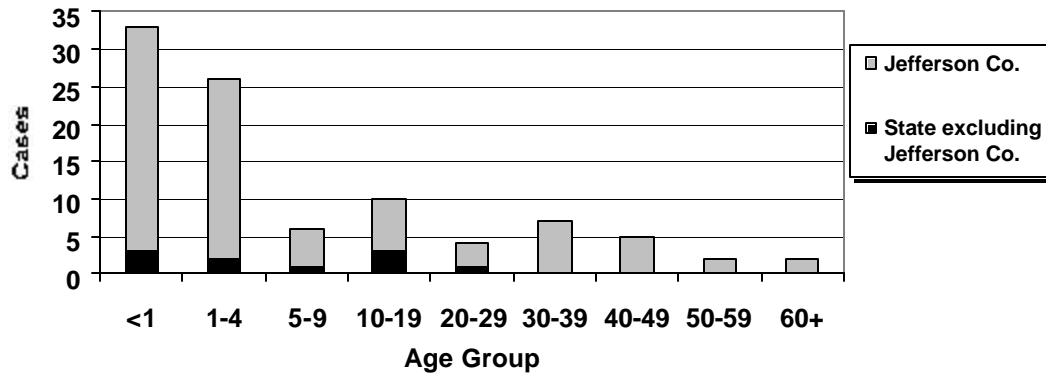
- Isolation of *Bordetella pertussis* from clinical specimen, **OR**
- Positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for *B. pertussis*.

**Pertussis Incidence
Kentucky, 1991-1999**



	1998	1999
Number of Cases	95	49
Rate per 100,000	2.4	1.2
Rate by Gender		
Female	3.0	1.3
Male	1.9	1.2
Rate by Race		
Black	16.2	2.1
White	1.3	1.2

Pertussis, Cases by Age Group Kentucky 1998

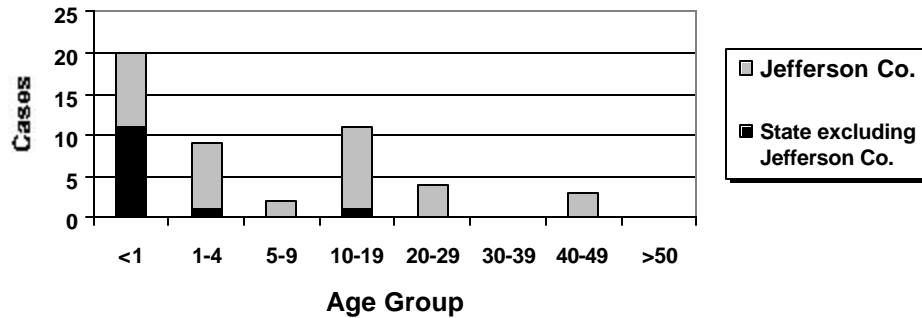


This chart shows actual case numbers in each age group and the rates per 100,000 are depicted in the table below. Children in the less than one year of age group experienced the highest rate both statewide and in Jefferson County, followed by the 1-4 year age group.

1998 Rates (per 100,000)

Age Group	Statewide	Jefferson County	State w/o Jefferson
<1 year	63.6	341.	7.0
1-4	12.3	68.6	1.1
5-9	2.2	11.5	0.4
10-19	1.8	8.0	0.6
20-29	0.7	3.3	0.2
30-39	1.2	6.7	0.0
40-49	0.8	5.0	0.0
50-59	0.5	2.7	0.0
60+	0.3	1.6	0.0

Pertussis, Cases by Age Group Kentucky, 1999

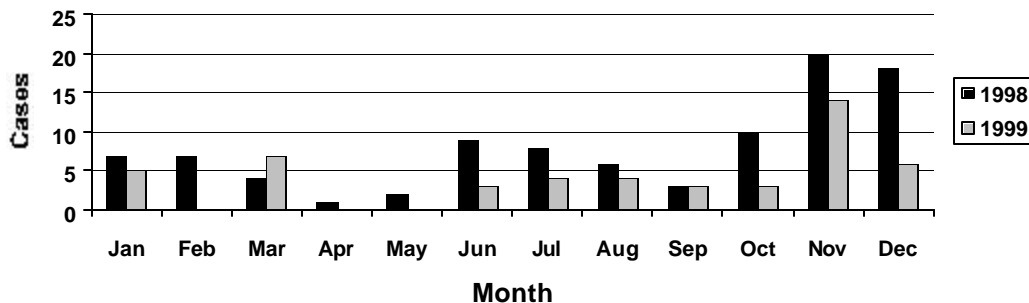


This chart shows actual case numbers with the rates per 100,000 in the table below. The less than one year age group again had the highest rate followed by the 1-4 year age group.

All 1999 Cases -- Rate per 100,000

Less than 1 year	1-4 yr	5-9yr.	10-19 yr	20-29 yr	30-39 yr	40-49 yr	> 50 yr
38.5	4.3	0.7	1.9	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.0

Pertussis, Reported Cases by Month of Onset Kentucky, 1998-1999



Districts Reporting Cases
Rate per 100,000

	1998		1999	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate
Barren River District	0	0.0	1	0.4
Lincoln Trail District	2	0.8	0	0.0
North Central District	85	10.2	37	4.4
Northern Kentucky District	6	1.6	8	2.1
Buffalo Trace District	0	0.0	1	1.8
Lake Cumberland District	1	0.5	1	0.5
Bluegrass District	1	0.2	1	0.2

The North Central District reported a significantly higher rate in each year. One county in that district, Jefferson County experienced outbreaks in both years.

Pertussis by District, Kentucky
Average Annual Incidence 1998-1999

